

TOWN OF TRURO
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING OF TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2006

The Truro Board of Selectmen met for their weekly session on Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Truro Town Hall, 24 Town Hall Road, Truro. In attendance were: Chairman Alfred Gaechter, Vice-Chairman Gary Palmer, Clerk Paul J. Asher-Best, Lloyd F. Rose, Christopher R. Lucy, Town Administrator Pamela Nolan, Assistant Town Administrator John J. Sanguinet, Administrative Secretary Julie DuPree, TBC/CC members Martha Nagy, Joel Searcy, Tim Dickey, Deb Paine, Betty Groom, Steve Royka, John Thornley, Paul Kiernan, Mike Silva and Steve Roderick, Breon Dunigan, Erin Silva, Desiree Duda, Tim Silva, Bruce Lessard, Donna Needham, Jon Sawyer, Mark A. Peters, J. Foley, Bill Reich, Steve Desroche of the Cape Codder, and Mike Iacuesssa of the Banner.

Mr. Gaechter convened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

Minutes: Mr. Palmer moved to approve the minutes of the regular and Executive Sessions of January 17, 2005 as presented, and to hold the Executive Session minutes in abeyance. Mr. Asher-Best seconded it. Vote: 4-0, unanimous. (Mr. Lucy had stepped out.)

Public Comment: Mr. Lessard asked the Board why the surveyor's tapes out at the proposed well field off North Union Field Road were going the wrong way into the woods. Both Mr. Palmer and Mr. Gaechter said they did not know, and Mr. Gaechter told him that they would look into it.

Interview: Donna Needham, Tercentennial Celebration Committee: After a brief interview, Mr. Palmer moved to appoint Donna Needham to the Tercentennial Celebration Committee. Mr. Gaechter seconded it. Vote: 5-0, unanimous.

TBC report on Community Center design: Mr. Dickey explained that a cost evaluation consultant was hired to review the design. The new design will fully meet the needs of the COA, and there will be space for offices for the Recreation Department and an indoor facility for youth and generously sized activity rooms. It will be a facility for community-wide events. He explained that escalating building costs had risen 12% in 2004 alone. Ms. Paine presented the Board with the answers to the most commonly asked questions about the project and outlined the proposed uses and users.

Mr. Asher-Best asked if they had a money figure. Mr. Reich explained that hasn't been pinned down yet and they only have an estimate. They won't know the final figure until further into the design stage. Value engineering options have been discussed, and can be implemented if the need arises. Ms. Dunigan stated that they were going to need more than has already been approved by Town Meeting. Mr. Rose was concerned that the large peaked roof would prove hard to heat. Mr. Dickey and Mr. Reich assured him the plan calls for a ceiling and there would also be proper insulation and the rafters covered. Mr. Palmer asked if they anticipated the cost to be at \$265 per square foot. Mr. Reich said this is the figure being used in the public area--he is also hearing \$280; he feels it will range from \$250-\$280 and will depend on what the market is doing. Mr. Gaechter told his colleagues that they should look at any issues with the design so that the TBC could proceed and it can go out to estimators. Mr. Lucy noted that the main

room was split. Mr. Reich explained that the divider could be retracted; it can be used as two rooms, or used as one. Mr. Dickey told Mr. Lucy that close to 300 seats could be accommodated. Mr. Gaechter said that the cost and the design were the reasons the project failed last time, and it is a better integrated design this time. Mr. Sawyer said that they would like to know if they have the BOS full approval and full support; they won't win at Town Meeting without their support. Mr. Gaechter told him that he supports the design and building as proposed, but still will need to know the cost. If it comes in reasonable, he will support it. He wants to have a community center. Ms. Duda said they need a figure and asked if it would be \$3 million or \$7 million. Mr. Gaechter said it would be nowhere near those figures, but that they couldn't go there. Ms. Dunigan asked how much had already been approved, and what may be needed beyond that. Mr. Gaechter told her that \$3.9 million was approved and \$3k or \$4k had been spent so far on design, which leaves about \$3.6 million available. Ms. Dunigan pointed out the hard work of the TBC, cutting to the point where they decided they would not have the building they wanted if they continued to cut. Mr. Palmer said that the figure is more realistic this time and he intended to support the building. Mr. Asher-Best said he has always supported the project in concept; he will only spend money on a building for all segments of the population. Mr. Lucy said he has always supported this; it will only cost more later, so we should build now. Ms. Duda thanked the TBC for their hard work. Ms. Paine spoke to the need to talk it up, and get the public to attend any informational meetings that may be held. Mr. Gaechter thanked the TBC on behalf of the BOS. Mr. Reich asked if he should tell the architect to proceed with the construction/final design documents. Mr. Gaechter said yes.

Boston Post Cane: Ms. Nolan explained that when she received the cane it was thought to be the Boston Post Cane, but it is not. The inscription on it reads from the Chamber of Commerce. She has made a call to Jane Peters of the Chamber asking them to go through their records and provide any information they may have. She told the Board that Betty Groom thought it would be a great idea to incorporate the cane into the Tercentennial celebration, so they will try to find the actual cane. Ms. Groom quipped that they had three years to find it.

Payomet Letter of Support: Mr. Gaechter explained that Mr. Strauss has applied for a grant from the CC Economical Development Council to construct the tent at the Highland Center. He noted that the BOS have sent such a letter before. **Mr. Rose moved to send a letter of support and authorize the Chair to sign it. Mr. Palmer seconded it. Vote: 5-0, unanimous.**

Town Administrator's Report: (action items)

- Reported that she received verification from the Building Inspector that all the Town Hall lights were in compliance with the bylaw; all lights for public safety are exempt. Discussion followed. Mr. Sanguinet reported on his conversation with the electrician. Mr. Gaechter directed that he find out if we can get the wattage down before turning the wash lights back on.
- Provincetown has asked that the BOS support their withdrawal from the CC Tech District temporarily and pay a non-resident tuition rate which would save them money. Ms. Nolan spoke to the Town Accountant who feels that our expenses would go up if this were done. Also, the school Principal has asked that the BOS not consider this because they could lose bus service. He also does not want to see Truro withdraw. She also received a memo from the

School Committee. They have voted not to support the withdrawal of Provincetown, but would support a change in the educational formula. Mr. Gaechter questioned if they had voted to support an article on the warrant to change the formula. Ms. Nolan said that they did not vote on that. Mr. Palmer suggested that they should address the problem with the formula. Mr. Asher-Best noted that it is on the State's agenda. Mr. Gaechter said he knows there is a problem, but didn't know if they needed a warrant article. **Mr. Gaechter moved not to support Provincetown's withdrawal and that the Town Administrator put together a draft letter with all the aspects for the BOS to review and to send to all legislators. Mr. Palmer seconded it. Vote: 5-0, unanimous.**

- Received a letter from Fran Coco regarding the Senior Work-off Program. She had learned that only the assessed owner of a property was eligible to participate in this program, but Policy #30 states that the applicant must be the homeowner, spouse or domestic partner of the homeowner. Town Counsel's opinion was sought, and agrees that the policy must be changed. Ms. Nolan told the Board that we have someone working for us who is not a property owner. She asked to be allowed to prorate in this case. Discussion followed. Town Counsel also said the BOS could consider administering the program under an appropriation rather than Section 5K. The consensus of the Board was to look into appropriation.

- Announced that tax bills go out tomorrow. Mr. Sanguinet told the BOS that our temporary schedule on public television of the BOS meetings is Sunday at 8:00 a.m. and Monday at 4:00 p.m. Times may be earlier depending on the length of the meeting.

Selectmen/Liaison Reports: (action items)

Lucy: -Requested that the BOS send letters to Chief Thomas and Lt. Lundborn informing them of the Board's intention to renegotiate their contracts. Mr. Gaechter directed Ms. Nolan to get out the letter used last time and prepare a letter for signature next week.

-Reported that the new owner of the Martin property came to Town Hall and no one was able to tell him how he could obtain a soil removal permit. Mr. Lucy raised the question of whether he needed one, describing the work that Mr. Poulin proposes to do. Mr. Gaechter said he needs to get a permit; the bylaw is based on volume. He said the Board would not need to have an expert opinion as to how the removal would affect the abutters, drainage, etc. Mr. Palmer said the BOS cannot review his plan by conversation. Ms. Nolan read the bylaw. Mr. Gaechter said they should schedule a public hearing with the applicant and the Building Inspector, the applicant to provide a written plan, and he would like to have a site visit as well. Mr. Sanguinet said the BOS should have the applicant provide a written request, and then schedule the public hearing. Ms. DuPree noted for the record that this is what she told the applicant to do when he came in earlier. She also suggested that he speak with the Building Inspector to verify that he needed a permit for what he intended to remove. **Mr. Lucy moved to advertise a public hearing pending receipt of the written request. Mr. Asher-Best seconded it. Vote: 5-0, unanimous.**

Next week's agenda: There is no business to conduct, so the meeting is cancelled.

At 7:42 p.m. Mr. Gaechter moved to convene in Executive Session under the provisions of MGL Chapter 39, Section 23B to consider negotiations and to not reconvene in Open Session. Roll Call Vote: Asher-Best, aye; Palmer, aye; Gaechter, aye; Lucy, aye; Rose, aye. 5-0, unanimous.

Alfred Gaechter, Chairman

Gary Palmer, Vice-Chairman

Paul Asher-Best, Clerk

Lloyd F. Rose

Christopher R. Lucy

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